

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/798,003

Examiner

Lam P. Pham

Applicant(s)

PACE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/1/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Chad Swantz on December 28, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 7: insert "said auxiliary contact point making electrical contact when a male outlet of a monitored appliance is inserted into said at least female outlet" after "one female outlet".

In claim 8, line 4: insert ", said least one female outlet on said front panel incorporating an auxiliary contact point on a neutral side, said auxiliary contact point making electrical contact when a male outlet of a monitored appliance is inserted into said at least female outlet" after "a power outlet".

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-20 allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

There is a reference in prior art that teaches of a warning device and receptacle adapter for warning of a power disruption to an appliance connected to the adapter, the adapter having a spring biased pin in a channel communicable with a micro switch and

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an appliance ground prong, for activating an alarm when the prong is withdrawn from the channel as found in Basile (US 4097843).

However, there is no reference in prior art fairly teach or suggest an apparatus (claim 1) for monitoring and alerting a power disruption comprising:

- a housing having a first panel and a second panel;

- a male outlet on said first panel, said male outlet capable of receiving power from a power outlet when said male outlet is coupled to a power outlet;

- at least one female outlet on said second panel conductively connected to said male outlet, said at least one female outlet incorporating an auxiliary contact point on a neutral side of said at least one female outlet, said auxiliary contact point making electrical contact when a male outlet of a monitored appliance is inserted into said at least female outlet;

- a monitoring circuit in said housing for detecting a power disruption for an appliance coupled to said at least one female outlet, said power disruption including a power failure in said housing, a power failure from said power outlet and a power disconnection between said appliance and said at least one female outlet;

- an alarm circuit coupled to said monitoring circuit, said alarm circuit providing an alarm upon detection of said power disruption;

- a transmitter circuit in said housing for broadcasting a wireless signal in case of said power disruption; and

- a battery in said housing providing power to said monitoring circuit, said alarm circuit and said transmitter circuit in case of said power failure in said housing.

No reference in prior art fairly teach or suggest an apparatus (claim 8) for monitoring and alerting a power disruption comprising:

- means for connecting a male outlet on a back panel of a housing and at least one female outlet on front panel of said housing, said male outlet capable of receiving power from a power outlet when said male outlet is coupled to a power outlet, said at least one female outlet on said front panel incorporating an auxiliary contact point on a

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neutral side, said auxiliary contact point making electrical contact when a male outlet of a monitored appliance is inserted into said at least female outlet;

means for monitoring a power disruption for an appliance coupled to said at least one female outlet, said power disruption including a power failure in said housing, a power failure from said power outlet and a power disconnection between said appliance and said at least one female outlet;

means for alarming a user upon detection of said power disruption;

means for broadcasting a wireless signal to a remote monitor in case of said power disruption; and

means for providing power to a plurality of circuits in said housing in case of said power disruption.

No reference in prior art fairly teach or suggest a system (claim 14) for monitoring and alerting a power disruption comprising:

a receptacle monitor including:

a housing having a first panel and a second panel;

a male outlet on said first panel, said male outlet capable of receiving power from a power outlet when said male outlet is coupled to a power outlet;

at least one female outlet on said second panel incorporating an auxiliary contact point on a neutral side, said auxiliary contact point making electrical contact when a male outlet of a monitored appliance is inserted into said at least female outlet;

an electrical circuit including conductors connecting said male outlet on said first panel and said female outlet;

a monitoring circuit for detecting a power disruption for an appliance coupled to said at least one female outlet, said power disruption including a power failure in said housing, a power failure from said power outlet and a power disconnection between said appliance and said at least one female outlet;

an alarm circuit coupled to said monitoring circuit, said alarm circuit providing an alarm upon detection of said power disruption;

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a transmitter circuit for broadcasting a wireless signal in case of said power disruption; and

a battery for providing power to said monitoring circuit, said alarm circuit and said transmitter circuit in case of said power failure; and

a remote monitor for alerting a remote user including:

a radio receiver circuit receiving said wireless signal from said transmitter circuit in said receptacle monitor;

a power switch for selectively enabling said remote monitor;

an alarm circuit for alerting said remote user upon reception of said wireless signal; and

a battery providing power to radio receiver circuit, said alarm circuit.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Basile (US 4097843) disclose a warning device and receptacle adapter.

Teague (US 5793284) disclose a portable radio paging alarm.

Winton (US 6700501) discloses an alarm device on a plug.

Adamo (US 3728581) discloses a GFCI.

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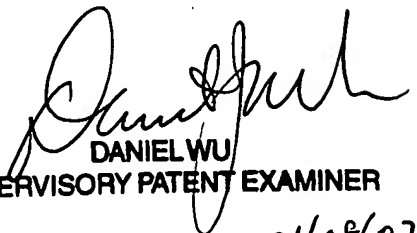
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lam P. Pham whose telephone number is 571-272-2977. The examiner can normally be reached on 10AM-7PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on 571-272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Lam P Pham  
Examiner  
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December 28, 2006.

  
DANIEL WU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
01/08/07